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OCTOBER - - - - 1941

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# "ASBESTOS"

FOUNDED IN JULY 1919 AND PUBLISHED
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## CONTENTS

| | Page |
|---|---|
| Removing Building's Bottlenecks—Editorial by Arthur A. Hood | 2 |
| Asbestos Tubular Sleeving — Test Methods | 8 |
| Blue Asbestos in Australia | 10 |
| Controlling Mine Blasts | 13 |
| Keeping Up Sales Volume After Defense Work is Over | 16 |
| Asbestos Screens on Tanker Lifeboats | 18 |
| Market Conditions | 22 |
| Contractors and Distributors Page | |
| Priorities for Construction | 26 |
| Building | 26 |
| The Twelve Tables | 27 |
| Automobile Production | 27 |
| The Queen's Canadian Fund | 28 |
| News of the Industry | 29 |
| Plant Personnel at Parsons | 30 |
| Charles H. Roberts Passes Away | 30 |
| New Factory Building for Raybestos | 32 |
| B. L. M. A. Elects Officers | 32 |
| President's Letter Mentions Asbestos | 33 |
| Something New in Siding Fasteners | 34 |
| New Vice Presidents for J-M | 34 |
| Fibre and Metal Products, Inc. | 35 |
| Patents | 35 |
| Imports and Exports | 36 |
| Production Statistics | 37 |
| Current Range of Price | 38 |
| Asbestos Stock Quotations | 38 |
| This and That | 39 |

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# REMOVING BUILDING'S BOTTLENECKS

*Editorial by Arthur A. Hood*

**Arthur Anderson Hood has been connected with the building industry all his life, both his father and grandfather having been in the lumber business. Mr. Hood started his business career by learning the business in his father's retail lumber yard, and was interested in the merchandising of lumber, both wholesale and retail, until his connection with Johns-Manville, in the capacity of merchandising counsel, in 1933. The research he conducted resulted in the "Housing Guild Plan for Consumer Selling" and he was made Director of the National Housing Guild Division, which post he held until July 1940, when he was named Director of Dealer Relations.**

**During the past five years, Mr. Hood has directed each of the 31 Housing Guild Training Courses held thruout the country, in which more than 5,000 dealer executives and salesmen have been trained in the principles and technique of selling building "packages" to consumers. Mr. Hood, therefore, is well qualified to write on any phase of merchandising connected with the building industry.**

When a bottleneck hampers the flow of anything, three things may be done: remove the bottleneck, widen it, or put more pressure behind the flow.

There are many hidden bottlenecks in the small construction industry which are restricting the efficient flow of the products of the building industry into consumption. They may be classified under these headings: inefficient marketing; uneconomic local package production; organization limitations; manpower limitations and faulty attitudes; educational limitations; excessive costs; and financing handicaps. Several would fall under more than one classification, and many have an interlocking tendency to further heighten the restraining effect of others.

Of one thing we may be certain—that the process of removing the bottlenecks of the building industry will not be rapid—but it should be steady.

It is fortunate that we can look forward to a few years of armament followed by several years upturn in building as time given by a kindly Providence to effectively meet this challenge.

Inevitably the solution of these problems will be found by *production management.* While our industry is primarily local instead of national, industry-wide planning and organization can only generate nationally and be budgeted by nationally distributing sources.

Another basic condition is that distribution starts with raw materials. The efficient production executive will therefore be a distribution engineer who organizes and implements a distribution plan clear thru to the consumer, and secures, trains and controls the necessary manpower to locally execute the national planning.

Analysis shows the majority of our bottlenecks to be along the distribution chain. The Building Industry is in greater need of capable distribution engineers (objective-minded sales managers and salesmen) than any other type of skilled or professional workers.

In removing these bottlenecks, should we not set our objective: To bring the production and distribution of building industry consumer service packages to that level of efficiency attained in the marketing and manufacture of other consumer goods.

*An Answer to the Marketing Bottlenecks.*

The most obvious answer to the small construction marketing bottlenecks would be to set up an effective retailing structure in each consumer marketing area. Idealistically this effective building industry retail structure would take a similar form to the best operated of the modern department stores—or the retailing branches of our large mail order companies.

We could picture an arcade type market with center counters for the display and sale of the hundreds of items of ready-for-sale merchandise which supply the housing field, surrounded by departmentalized shops—branches of banks, building & loan headquarters, insurance departments, rental offices, real estate department, a trade-in or used house department, architectural department manned by the needed number of capable architects, construction departments manned by contractors of proved ability, plumbing, heating, electrical work and equipment, insulation, fuels, etc. Interior decoration would be a major department with model rooms and fabric and texture displays, also models and color photos of pre-fabricated and custom-built small construction packages of every nature.

This building arcade would provide every conceivable building industry service at one headquarters and would have capable senior management, able department heads,

well trained sales employees, a scientific operating plan and adequate quotas backed with powerful advertising and promotion to tap every creative selling opportunity.

*Solving Local Package Production Bottlenecks.*

In connection with this building arcade, there might be a local warehouse factory supplied by varied manufacturers with a scientifically determined inventory of all materials going into small construction. Skilled mechanics employed on *annual* wage basis by this factory would be available to construct packages on sites in the trading area outside of the factory, and when not so employed, to be working in the warehouse-factory fabricating prebuilt units and partially fabricated wall and floor sections ready for sale and installation. Local production would be completely coordinated with sales opportunities and quotas, and the entire local selling-production-distribution operation streamlined for efficiency and the elimination of every type of waste. Obviously, with wholesaling, retailing, and construction in one organization, major savings would be had.

Ample funds for the financing of every economic consumer sales opportunity would be provided at low interest rates with a minimum of red tape. The mortgages, notes, and financing instruments would be packaged, identified, and trademarked with the building package product.

Equity structures would be designed to foster home ownership by those who need it most—families getting their first foothold on security—thru savings. Safeguards would be provided for both mortgagor and mortgagee, and the consuming customer would have his mortgage loan and amortizing payments insured against the hazards of death, sickness and accident.

In short, it would be made as easy for a consumer to purchase a home or other small construction package as it is any other important packaged unit today.

*Integration; and Educational Facilities.*

Idealistically, every factor of the building industry, from skilled labor in the forests and mines from which

# Carey HEAT INSULATIONS

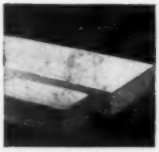
Careycel—For temperatures up to 300° F.

## ASBESTOS · MAGNESIA

The CAREY Line includes high efficiency insulating materials of Asbestos and Magnesia for every known service condition—for temperatures ranging from

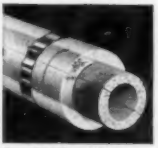
**SUB-ZERO to 2500° F.**

85% Magnesia—For High & Med. Pressure.



HI-Temp Blocks—For Furnaces, Ovens, Kilns, etc.

In addition to the insulations shown, Carey makes other Asbestos Specialties — as Plastic and dry Refractory Cements, Asbestos Paper, Asbestos Millboard, Asbestos Packings, Asbestos Cements, Flat and Corrugated Sheathing, Careystone Asbestos-Cement Shingles and Siding, Asbestos Fibre.



Combination HI-Temp—85% Magnesia.

Hair Felt Insulation For sub-zero.

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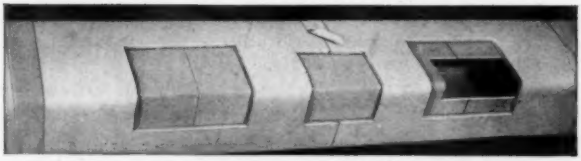
the all-asbestos duct for conveying conditioned air. Combines duct and insulation. Fireproof, sound-deadening, permanent, economical, easily erected.



Cut-out view of CAREYDUCT—assembled sections showing staggered joint construction and taped outer jacket. Smooth appearance.

**THE PHILIP CAREY COMPANY** • Lockland, Cincinnati, Ohio

Dependable Products Since 1873

IN CANADA: THE PHILIP CAREY COMPANY, LTD. Office and Factory: LENNOXVILLE, P. Q.

our raw materials are secured, along the human production and distribution chain to ultimate building package consumption, would become building industry minded and conscious of the individual's contribution to the whole. Every building industry factor would realize the need for and *personal* benefit in creative building package selling and salesmanship.

Architects, engineers, manufacturers, retailers, wholesalers, financiers, realtors, contractors, and skilled-labor representatives would stop their internecine warfare, move around to the same side of the table, and unite in the creation of greatly increased sales volume from which every factor would proportionately benefit. Many of our bottlenecks would be automatically solved thru this unity of action.

Planning and organization, as always, would start with the great building material production organizations, but the planning of each company would be coordinated with the industry pattern and would be made effective with economic controls along the chain of distribution.

Public and private educational facilities would be induced to provide, thru our higher school systems, trained manpower fitted to occupy production, sales, and even sub-executive positions in the building industry—as the agricultural industry is now served.

Consumers too would be *continuously* educated on the protective safeguards set up for them in the production and distribution systems provided by the integrated building industry, and would be brought to recognize the keystone position of the building industry in the structure of democracy.

Every development would meet the test of ultimate consumer satisfaction.

And we must never forget that John Q. Public is not interested in sticks and stones—he wants a finished package with responsibility for correct design, quality materials, sound construction, safe and sane financing, a proper site, and a predetermined price.

—:—

*Our reputations are made by what people say of us behind our backs.*

# ASBESTOS

## *In a Multitude of Forms . . .*

**For more than three-quarters of a century, Johns-Manville has been manufacturing a large variety of asbestos products, contributing to greater comfort, protection from fire and the more efficient operation of industrial equipment.**

**Johns-Manville owns and operates Asbestos Mines in Arizona and Canada, thirteen factories located strategically across the continent, sales offices in all large cities and a large, scientifically equipped research laboratory in which J-M Engineers and Scientists are constantly developing new uses for this remarkable mineral, Asbestos.**

**Some of the better known J-M Asbestos products include: Packings, Insulations, Roofing and Siding, Transite Water Pipe and Electrical Conduit, Office Partitions, Decorative Wall Boards, Flooring and Friction Materials. In addition, Johns-Manville furnishes raw asbestos in a wide range of grades and fibre lengths.**

**For complete information on J-M Asbestos Products write to any J-M office or distributor.**

## Johns-Manville

**EXECUTIVE OFFICES: NEW YORK**

*Branches in All Large Cities*

JM PRODUCT

# ASBESTOS TUBULAR SLEEVING---

## Tentative Test Methods Adopted by A.S.T.M.

Tentative Standard Method of testing Asbestos Tubular Sleeving worked out by A. S. T. M. Committee D-13 on Textile Materials, was presented to the annual meeting of the American Society for Testing Materials held in June of this year, and was accepted by the Society. It is quoted in full below.

This Tentative Standard is subject to annual revision. Suggestions for revision should be addressed to the Society at 260 S. Broad St., Philadelphia, Pa.

—:—

**Scope**

1. These methods of testing apply to woven and braided asbestos tubular sleeving.

**Sampling**

2. Asbestos tubular sleeving shall be sampled in accordance with Section 10 of the Standard Methods of Testing and Tolerances for Tubular Sleeving and Braids (A. S. T. M. Designation: D 354) of the American Society for Testing Materials.

**Test Condition**

3. All test specimens shall be conditioned to moisture equilibrium in a standard atmosphere having a relative humidity of 65 per cent at 70 F. (21 C.) A tolerance of plus or minus 2 per cent is permitted in relative humidity and plus or minus 2 F. (1.1 C.) in temperature.

Note. For purpose of tests, it is recognized that specimens reach moisture equilibrium after exposure for at least 4 hr. at the above specified relative humidity and temperature.

**Physical Properties**

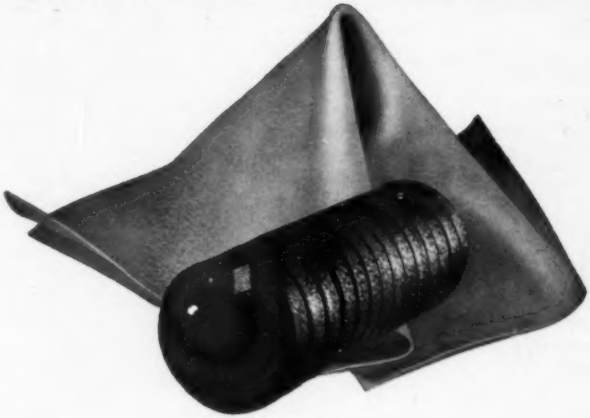
4. The weight, wall thickness, inside diameter, carriers, ends per bobbin, yarn number, and imperfections shall be determined in accordance with Sections 11 to 17, inclusive, of Standard Methods D 354.

**Asbestos Content**

5. The asbestos content shall be determined in accordance with Section 8 of the Standard Specifications and Methods of Test for Asbestos Roving for Electrical Purposes (A. S. T. M. Designation: D 375) of the American Society for Testing Materials.

# PACKINGS

## SUPERIOR QUALITY FOR EVERY NEED



Keasbey & Mattison Packings are engineered for every type of service—steam, oil, water, acid, and gas. One of the outstanding products in the line is K & M 236 Packing for hot oil superheat, which presents the utmost resistance to the solvent action of hot petroleum fractions.

There are a few territories open for desirable Distributors. Why not get in touch with us today?

K&M best in asbestos

KEASBEY & MATTISON COMPANY

AMBLER • PENNSYLVANIA

# BLUE ASBESTOS IN AUSTRALIA

**Editor's Note—The following report is taken from the South African Mining and Engineering Journal of August 9, 1941, and is an extract of Report No. 49 issued by the Aerial Geological and Geophysical Survey of Northern Australia.**

Extensive commercially important deposits of blue asbestos occur in the Hamersley Ranges district of Western Australia.

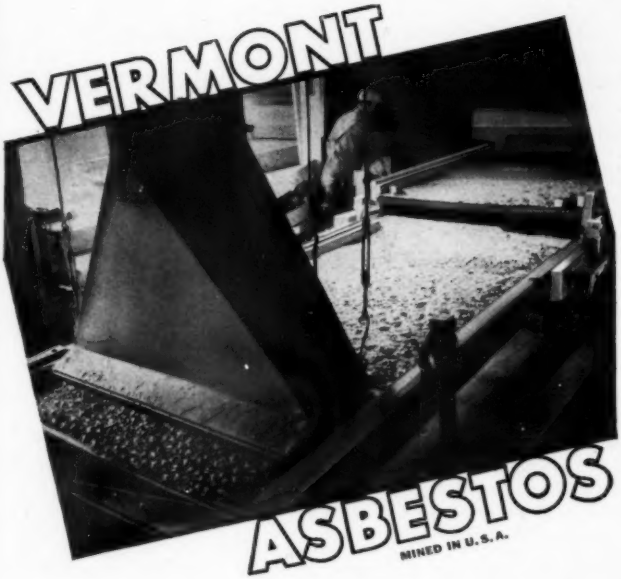
The Hamersley Ranges are situated in the northwestern part of Western Australia, the western end of the ranges being about 75 miles south of Roebourne and the eastern end 175 miles south of Port Hedland.

The crocidolite occurs as comfortable seams of cross fibre in horizontally-bedded ferruginous quartzites of the Nullagine series (Proterozoic). The mineral is distributed thruout the length of the Hamersley Ranges, and the asbestos belt is known to extend over a total length of approximately 180 miles, and over a width of from 20 to 30 miles. The three principal occurrences are in Wittenoom's, Yampire and Dale's gorges.

*Topography of District.*

The ranges consist mainly of horizontally bedded ferruginous quartzites, quartzites and shales, with occasional thin bands of dolomite. These rocks form part of the Nullagine series, and probably represent the upper portion of that series. The mean height of the ranges is approximately 2,000 feet above sea-level and 600 to 800 feet above the general level of the tablelands southeast of Roebourne. The highest peak, Mount Bruce, rises to 4,024 feet above sea-level. The ranges are intersected by numerous northflowing streams, dry during the greater part of the year, which have carved deep gorges; and it is in these gorges that the principal asbestos deposits have been found.

The crocidolite occurs in the ferruginous quartzites, generally in proximity to beds of dolomite or to beds of a bluish-colored fine-grained reibeckite rock. None of the sections exposed in the cliff faces showed igneous rocks either in the form of sills or dykes.




Clean, well fiberized asbestos particularly well suited for the manufacture of the better types of

**BRAKE LINING • CLUTCH FACING • ROOFING PAINTS**
**SHINGLES • PLASTIC CEMENT • INSULATING CEMENT**
**MOLDED PLASTICS • ASBESTOS PAPER • MILLBOARD**

*Samples and Prices upon application*

**VERMONT ASBESTOS MINES**
**Division of The RUBEROID Co.**
**HYDE PARK, VERMONT**
**SALES OFFICE, 500 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY • MINE, EDEN, VT.**

During 1937-38 a total of 400 tons of fibre was produced from the three gorges. (Later production is not available.) The fibre was mined by individuals or syndicates by benching along the cliff faces where it was most readily accessible. The material was then hand-cobbed to separate the magnesite and bagged for transport to Roebourne. Except in a few instances, no attempt was made to grade the material won, stained fibre was mixed with fibre of better quality.

*Features of Deposits.*

In the conclusion of his report, K. J. Finucane, senior geologist, states: The most striking features with regard to the crocidolite deposits of the Hamersley Ranges are:

1. Their extent.
2. The large amount of fibre available in the aggregate and the strong possibility that portions of the deposits could be mined back from the cliff faces.
3. The excellent quality and length of the fibre.
4. Its occurrence on cliff faces and the ease with which mullock can be disposed of.
5. The regularity of the known occurrences and their association with marker horizons making the search for fibre relatively easy.
6. The simplicity with which the fibre can be prepared for market and the relatively small capital expenditure involved.

It would be quite an impossibility to form any estimate of the total quantity of fibre available except to state that it is considerable. All of the mining work conducted to date has been by hand labor, and the fibre has been benched or gouged out where it was most readily accessible. The total amount of work done for the 400 tons of fibre produced is comparatively small.

The Hamersley Ranges deposits compare very favorably with those of the Cape Belt of South Africa, and from Hall's description of the latter it seems very probable that the Hamersley Ranges deposit contains a much greater proportion of long fibre.

[1] Asbestos in the Union of South Africa. Geol. Sur. Union of South Africa. Memoir 12, 1930.

—:—

*Reputation is what folks think you are.*
*Personality is what you seem to be.*
*Character is what you are.*

# CONTROLLING MINE BLASTS

*By F. R. Cozzens*

Mine explosions, resulting invariably in human sacrifice as well as premature blasts which ruin machinery and equipment, are often caused by uncontrolled currents of electricity. These currents, termed 'strays' in mine parlance can originate at any point of friction and may filter thru the earth from power lines, motors, tracks and other operative equipment, thus taxing man's ingenuity to determine their possibilities. In the Ohio soft coal regions where mine safety records have won wide recognition, some very outstanding results in stray current control are being secured by combinations of rubber and asbestos.

To protect a mine, whether it be hand-bank, incline, or cage-shaft type, from stray electrical currents, the operator seeks primarily to prevent such currents from filtering into the earth. The ever present dampness is a hindrance, and so are various mineral oxides, sulphur and salt, which cause rapid deterioration of non-conductive materials. For these reasons, foundations which support stationary machinery are provided with breakers which are placed between sections of concrete. The breakers are made of compressed sheet. After being cut to size, it is spread flat between the sections of the foundation as the concrete is poured so that one foundation may carry on to a dozen breakers thru which stray currents cannot pass. In this capacity, asbestos fibre binds the rubber in concrete, prevents slipping, and enables the breaker to withstand a pressure of many tons. Somewhat the same principle is carried out in bases for portable equipment, except that the breakers consist of two or more thicknesses of asbestos felt or asbestos gasket cloth, cut to size, placed flat on the ground, then covered with a layer of rubber sheeting. The engine or motor is placed upon the rubber sheet. In this way, the rubber acts solely as a current breaker, but the asbestos felt or

gasket cloth underneath prevent the former rapid deterioration caused by salt and iron oxides.

Wiring in all mines has standard insulation, but since many current lines pass thru water and muck, special protection is required. At all such risky points, the wire insulation is heavily wrapped with asbestos-rubber tape, and where the cable must remain submerged, short sections of conduit (tile) or iron pipe house the wires; space between insulated cable and pipe being filled with rubber cement.

As a conveyor of stray currents, the mine car track is perhaps the most common medium, but protective measures are more easily applied. Blocks of compressed rubber sheet, ½ by 4 inches, are placed between joints of the rails. Blocks are spaced at intervals of 50 feet, and strips of the same type sheeting are placed underneath the rails at the joints to keep the blocks from slipping. Hoisting equipment is often wrapped with asbestos tape, above and below points of friction, and asbestos cloth partitions off live wires which are in close contact with moving machinery. Many mines are now provided with curtains of asbestos cloth, hung from the roof on rollers, so as to be drawn down over an entry in case of fire at any point along the tunnel. Modern operators require that all explosives used in coal shooting be housed in wood boxes, lined with rubber. Such magazines are always placed on asbestos felt, or upon a footer of asbestos fibre. The purpose is to resist fire and to prevent damage by mineral oxides. Air filters and screens, made of finely woven asbestos yarns are modern equipment, as are conduit pipe and blocks.

Gloves, inner-soles and other articles of asbestos clothing are used by the modern miner, and high temperature cements, friction linings, gaskets and packings are used in the equipment itself.

Asbestos has in fact helped tremendously in reducing stray current hazards more than seventy-five per cent within the past twelve years.

—:—

*Getting even isn't half so profitable as getting ahead.*

# YOUR DEFENSE

## INSULATIONS

BY

**NORRISTOWN MAGNESIA & ASBESTOS CO.**

•

MORE HASTE

LESS WASTE

SAME COST

# KEEPING UP SALES VOLUME AFTER DEFENSE WORK IS OVER

"What should manufacturers do now to keep up their sales volume after the current defense market ceases to exist?"

At the present time most asbestos manufacturers are busy with orders going either directly or indirectly into the defense program.

No one knows how long this condition will last—no one knows just when or how the defense market will slacken or cease. It may end very abruptly; it may slow up gradually. But when it does slow up or stop altogether, what will happen? Can the Asbestos Industry, either individually as manufacturers, or compositely as an Industry, do anything to prepare for *that* emergency?

That is the question put to us by The Research Advisory Service of the Liberty Bank of Buffalo. Readers may remember that this same agency in 1940[1] conducted a most interesting survey on the question "What new product, process or material might industrial research develop that would be valuable to your industry?"

That we may answer this new question as adequately as possible, will our readers write us their ideas, telling us what they are doing, or plan to do, to meet the new emergency when the present one is over? Address all letters to "ASBESTOS", 16th Floor, Inquirer Building, Philadelphia. Your name will not be identified with anything published either by us or by the Liberty Bank, without your express permission.

[1] See Page 8, April 1940 "ASBESTOS".

—:—

We don't suppose there is at present much "used machinery" for disposal but if any of the asbestos manufacturers or fabricators have any for sale we would be glad to know about it and possibly be of service in disposing of it.

# ASBESTOS

# ASBESTOS CORPORATION LIMITED

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# ASBESTOS SCREENS ON TANKER LIFEBOATS

When oil tankers are torpedoed, the crews escaping in life boats frequently find themselves surrounded by a sea of flame, the oil spread over the water having caught fire.

Some of the shipping concerns have adopted the device

Br. Combine Photo.

*Asbestos Screens closed for Fire Protection*
*Opened they can be used as Sails*

shown in accompanying photograph. The screens are made of asbestos cloth. They can be used as fire screens, when closed as shown, or can be set in a parallel position to each other and thus form sails when there is no danger from fire.

Sometimes additional protective covering (presumably also of asbestos cloth) is used on the hull down to the water line.

—:—

*Only men who can do the work of two men succeed in a real way, for the work of one man is required for a living, and that of the other to achieve success.*

# JOHNSON'S COMPANY

ESTABLISHED IN 1875

*Head Office*

Thetford Mines, P. Q., Canada

*Mines*

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Black Lake, Quebec

Producers of All Grades of

RAW ASBESTOS

AGENTS

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7th Floor, Marunouchi Bldg. Tokyo

# WEEK AFTER WEEK . . . O

In the face of unprecedented problems of production and transportation, we are maintaining continuous shipments of all types of crude asbestos from all parts of the world.

An ample supply is now available at our plant in Millington, New Jersey . . . to be processed into the asbestos products which have served American industry so well for the past twenty years.

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Manufacturers of CYPRUS ASBESTOS SIDING . . . rs a lightest rigid insula e fo

Mindful of the great task our nation h t for participating actively in the great def pro unstinted cooperation and constant effowar

# ...NTH AFTER MONTH...

**THESE TYPES OF RAW ASBESTOS ARE ALWAYS CARRIED IN STOCK**

Arizona Crude • Australian Crude • Canadian Crude
Cyprus Asbestos • Italian Crude • India Crude
Russian Crude • Rhodesian Crude • South African Blue • South African Yellow • And Many Others

...ING... ...rs and exclusive manufacturers of NEW ERA INSULATION, ...insulation for high or low temperature.

...tion ...t for itself, it is a source of gratification that we are ...at def... production program of our country. We pledge our ...ant ef...ward the achievement of this program.

# MARKET CONDITIONS

## GENERAL BUSINESS

The best concise description of general business conditions seems to be that given by the first sentence in the October letter of The National City Bank. This says: "The industrial organization of the country is still in the period of transition to an all-out defense basis, and while the shift is under way, some confusion and irregularity in the business reports must be expected."

At the moment, the subject which is uppermost in almost everyone's mind is "priorities unemployment." With everyone—government, business and workers—making every effort to solve this problem, it seems impossible that it cannot be fairly well taken care of within reasonable time. But it must be realized that all must put their shoulders to the wheel. To again quote the National City letter—"The situation is not one for alarm or pessimism, but for resolute attack on all elements of the problem."

## ASBESTOS - RAW MATERIAL

There is no question but that Russia will increase delivery to the U. S. A. as soon as reciprocal arrangements in Washington are concluded. This country can absorb the tonnage without affecting the importations of Canadian asbestos or, asbestos from any other source. Even the increased tonnage of asbestos from South Africa, has been readily absorbed. While there is no shortage of asbestos, neither is there any great accumulation of stocks.

The freight rate from South Africa to New York, which was formerly $7.50 per ton, is now $20.00 per ton. Insurance has advanced from 1% to almost 5%. Prices, therefore, are very firm, with a rising tendency.

## ASBESTOS—MANUFACTURED GOODS

*Textiles.* The demand for asbestos textiles is now greatly in excess of the production facilities of the Industry. There has been some little expansion by the manufacturers, but this has not been of sufficient size to take care of the increased requirements of the users.

# *SEAPAK*

# PIPE COVERING

## A Superior Refrigeration Insulation

**for insulating Ice Water**
**Brine and Ammonia lines**

***SEAPAK—The "ACE" of Insulation Efficiency***

**Insulation in the refrigeration field presents a special problem—airtight and watertight protection —safety against every hazard which might threaten efficient operation.**

**SEAPAK, an excellent insulating medium now available, has proved itself the "ace" of insulation efficiency both in the laboratory and in actual usage. *The need of dependable protection for all ice water, brine and ammonia lines, is fully answered by SEAPAK Pipe Covering.***

***Samples and full information upon request.***

AAA 1 PRODUCTS

## ASBESTOS, ASPHALT and INSULATION MFG. CO.

**2100 W. Fullerton Avenue, Chicago, Ill.**

# Rhodesian

SHABANI MINE — SHABANIE
GATH'S MINE — MASHABA

# African

HAVELOCK MINE — SWAZILAND

# Canadian

BELL MINE — THETFORD MINES, P. Q.

ASBESTOS

**Raw Asbestos Distributors Limited**

Spotland

ROCHDALE, Lancs., England.

It is now anticipated that the proposed curtailment of automotive production will make available further capacity on asbestos textiles for non-defense purposes. This change in condition will probably be reflected in the first quarter of 1942. Most manufacturers have commitments for defense purposes and for the electrical trade that will carry them well into the latter part of 1942. Prices in the asbestos textile field are strong.

*Brake Lining.* August sales have reached a new high and the total for the first eight months of 1941 is far ahead of that for the same period last year. Export sales continued their downward trend.

*Paper and Millboard.* Demand in the paper market is seasonably heavy, and prices are therefore quite firm. The millboard market also shows heavy demand with prices firm, most of the production in this commodity going into defense work.

*Insulation. High Pressure.* To all intents and purposes the situation is unchanged. Shipments continue at a high rate. Some slight slackening in demand is evident. It remains to be seen whether this presages a general decline in volume of new orders or whether it will be followed by even greater demands from users of these materials.

*Insulation. Low Pressure.* In this market strong demand prevails on account of the season which, together with rising costs accounts for an upward trend in prices.

*Asbestos-Cement Products.* The situation on asbestos-cement products of all kinds continues much the same as it was a month ago. If anything, deliveries generally are farther behind than they were at that time, and the size and number of inquiries being received for these products in connection with government defense projects indicates a long continuance of this condition. In addition to this, the need for priorities in securing the necessary metal fasteners for corrugated sheets and nails for shingles and sidings will probably make it increasingly difficult to supply civilian requirements unless they are a part of the national defense construction program.

**The above comments represent the considered opinions of leaders in the various asbestos fields. Comments and opinions are always welcome.**

# CONTRACTORS AND DISTRIBUTORS PAGE

## Priorities For Construction

To expedite the building of essential defense housing, project preference ratings will be granted. The highest rating of those to be available for housing will be assigned to defense projects which were already under construction on September 1, 1941, and for remodeling and rehabilitation, which create living accommodations for additional defense workers. Lower ratings will be granted to new construction for rent, and a still lower rating for new construction for sale. All defense housing ratings, however, will be in the defense, or "A" class. Certificates of rating will be extended in the field for privately financed projects by the field offices of the Priorities Division, upon the recommendation of the Defense Housing Coordinator.

By the use of project ratings, the Division of Priorities can assign *one* rating which can be used to secure delivery of scarce building materials (which appear on the Defense Housing Critical List) and which will go into any *one* defense housing project.

This procedure eliminates the need for many different individual applications for different materials.

It will be remembered that the Defense Housing Critical List includes "asbestos products, to include only roofing, siding, pipe and pipe covering". (See page 28, September 1941 "ASBESTOS")

—:—

## Building

Building and engineering contracts awarded during August 1941 totaled $760,233,000 and were, according to F. W. Dodge Corporation, *higher than for any other month recorded* in its record of construction in 37 Eastern States. This dollar volume was 84 per cent greater than the $414,941,000 awarded in August 1940 and 14 per cent greater than the $667,097,000 awarded in May 1928 which was the previous highest month on record.

Residential building dollar volume of $231,529,000 was 51 per cent above August 1940 and larger than any month since April 1929. Non-residential building was, however, at a record high level of $286,741,000, 141 per cent above August 1940 and 12 per cent above its previously high month of June 1928 when it had an award volume of $255,901,000.

Commenting on the August record volume, Thomas S. Holden, president of F. W. Dodge Corporation said, "Peak levels of de-

fense construction activity appear to be scheduled for continuance for some months to come.

"This year's record-breaking volume of industrial plant construction has been an important factor in the demand for critical materials; as the defense plant expansion program tapers off, which will happen at some stage, the critical supply situation with regard to vitally important building materials and equipment should be eased to a considerable extent."

—:—

**The Twelve Tables** for estimating fittings, flange areas, hair felt, ducts and flue perimeters, etc., are being found increasingly useful, judging from the number of orders we are receiving. One man writes us that he had a set of the tables as printed some years ago in "ASBESTOS" but found these sets as now furnished much handier.

Price is $1.00 per set. Send all orders to "ASBESTOS", 16th Floor, Inquirer Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa.

## AUTOMOBILE PRODUCTION

Total automotive production for August 1941 amounted to 164,792 of which 147,600 were produced in the United States and 17,192 in Canada.

This was quite a drop from the July total of 444,421, altho greatly in excess of the August 1940 figure of 89,866, which was unusually low awaiting new model announcements.

Total production for the first 8 months of 1941 was 3,782,440 compared with 2,875,477 for the same period in 1940.

Curtailment in production during the remaining months of the year will keep the production figure to a very low level.

—:—

*It is a great deal easier to find an engine than it is to find an engineer.*


**RAW ASBESTOS**

**N. V. NEDERLANDSCHE ASBEST MY**

**P. O. BOX 803**

**ROTTERDAM (Holland)**

*Stock at Rotterdam*

# THE QUEEN'S CANADIAN FUND

Our readers will learn with interest of the manner in which a well known War Charity—The Queen's Canadian Fund—has benefited by the generosity of prominent personalities in the Asbestos Industry.

The story begins with a paragraph which appeared in our August issue, which we quote:

> Wanted—a copy of the book "Chrysotile Asbestos" by James G. Ross. Perhaps some of our readers have a copy of this book which for one reason or another they do not need. If so, please write us.

As all students of asbestos are aware "Chrysotile Asbestos in Canada" is the standard reference book on asbestos. Its author is Lt. Col. James G. Ross, Director and Manager of Asbestos Corporation Limited, Thetford Mines. The book is extremely difficult to obtain as the original and subsequent editions have been exhausted.

The paragraph caught the eye of Mrs. Ross, the wife of the author, who wrote to "ASBESTOS" and offered to send her autographed copy of the book provided the purchaser would send her a check for $25.00 payable to the Queen's Canadian Fund—a War Charity organized under the patronage of Queen Elizabeth to aid the victims of air raids in the United Kingdom.

We passed Mrs. Ross's offer along to Mr. Sumner Simpson, President of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., who had asked us where he could obtain a copy of the book (thus prompting our advertisement) and he promptly accepted the offer and mailed his check to Mrs. Ross.

In conversation with Colonel and Mrs. Ross at Thetford Mines a short time later, Mr. Simpson, being so pleased to receive the book and so much impressed with the splendid work being carried on by the Queen's Canadian Fund, spontaneously made an additional contribution to the Fund.

Mrs. Ross would be delighted to receive contributions to this worthwhile work from Asbestos Industry friends.

# NEWS OF THE INDUSTRY

## BIRTHDAYS

David E. Kelley, President, Kelley Asbestos Products Co., Kansas City, Mo., October 16.

Wm. F. Reed, President, Asbestos Distributors, Inc., Port Chester, N. Y., October 17.

Thomas Lehon, Vice Pres. and Gen. Mgr., The Lehon Co., Chicago, Ill., October 17.

A. K. Burgstresser, President, Norristown Magnesia & Asbestos Co., Norristown, Pa., October 26.

L. R. Hoff, President, Johns-Manville Sales Corporation, New York City, N. Y., October 27.

A. L. Wade, President, Asbestos Insulations, Reg'd., Montreal, P. Q., Canada, October 28.

George L. Abbott, President and General Manager, Garlock Packing Co., Palmyra, N. Y., October 31.

F. E. Byrnes, Assistant to Vice President, The Ruberoid Co., New York City, N. Y., October 31.

Ernest S. Sprinkmann, President, Sprinkmann Sons Corp., Milwaukee, Wis., November 3.

G. M. Righter, Export, Manager and Eastern Sales Manager United States Asbestos Division, Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., New York City, N. Y., November 10.

We extend congratulations and best wishes to all these gentlemen on the occasion of their birthdays.

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**OPERATING THE WORLD'S LARGEST ASBESTOS MINE** is the title of an article, the first part of which appears in the Engineering & Mining Journal of September 1941. The article is illustrated by several photographs and a map of the mine and surrounding buildings. The front cover of the same issue of the Engineering & Mining Journal contains a very interesting photograph taken at this mine, which is owned by Canadian John-Manville Company, Inc., this photograph showing the drilling of asbestos rock for secondary blasting. Part II of the article will apear in the October issue of the Journal.

**CORRECTION:** Our September issue in its News Section, under the heading "Venezuela Asbestos" stated that the Montanita deposit was being operated at present. This was incorrect. The Montanita mine has not been operated for some years.

## PLANT PERSONNEL AT PARSONS

Announcement was recently made of the appointment of J. L. Wood, general credit manager for Johns-Manville, to the post of office manager for the $27,000,000 shell loading plant at Parsons, Kansas, which the J-M Service Corporation will build and operate for the United States Government. Mr. Wood, who has many friends in the retail building material trade thruout the country, was selected because of his extensive knowledge of administrative and office problems.

Harry B. Freeman, assistant to Mr. Wood in the J-M credit department has been appointed acting general credit manager during Mr. Wood's absence in Kansas.

Other J-M executives scheduled for important posts at Parsons, include Alexander Cromwell, vice president in charge of Pacific Coast operations, who will be plant manager, and J. F. Knipscher, chief of the sales section of general accounting department in New York, who has been appointed principal accountant.

As was announced in our September issue, the plant will be known as the Kansas Ordnance Plant and will employ approximately 8,000 men. Construction is starting at once—the plant to be in operation within as short a time as possible.

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## CHARLES H. ROBERTS--Treasurer of Johns-Manville Passes Away

Charles H. Roberts, Treasurer of Johns-Manville Corporation, died on September 10th at the Doctors Hospital where he had been confined since August 20th for treatment of a heart ailment, Mr. Roberts was 51 years old and lived in Scarsdale, N. Y.

Mr. Roberts was born on a farm near Doylestown, Bucks County, Penna., on May 8th, 1890, and received his secondary education in Trenton, N. J. He attended the Wharton School of Finance of the University of Pennsylvania until 1907, when he began his business career with J. A. Roeblings Sons Co., as head of their cost department.

Later he served in various capacities in the financial departments of the Mercer Automobile Co., Hess-Bright Manufacturing Company, U. S. Rubber Co., Splitdorf Electrical Co., and Julius Kayser & Co., before joining Johns-Manville in 1928 as assistant general auditor. In that same year he was made general auditor; in 1937 he became comptroller and the following year was appointed treasurer.

Mr. Roberts was a member of the Westchester Hills Golf Club at White Plains, N. Y., Cobleigh Club, Inc., at Rye, N. Y., and the Controllers Institute of America.

## • BLUE ASBESTOS

The Cape Asbestos Company, Ltd., is the world's largest supplier of acid-resistant blue crocidolite asbestos, and the only manufacturer operating its own mines. Inquiries solicited on:

**MILLBOARD** **YARNS**
**ROVINGS** **POWDER** **CLOTHS**
**PROCESSED FIBRES**
**Unexcelled for use in**
**ASBESTOS CEMENT PIPES**

## • AMOSITE ASBESTOS

This fibre owing to its great length and bulk is unrivalled for use as an insulating medium in:

***Asbestos mattress filler***
***85% Magnesia insulation***

## The CAPE ASBESTOS CO. Limited

**Morley House, 28-30 Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C.1.**
FACTORY, BARKING, ESSEX

***United States Sales Agent:***
**ARNOLD W. KOEHLER**
**415 LEXINGTON AVE.** **NEW YORK CITY**
TELEPHONE—VANDERBILT 6-1477

## NEW FACTORY BUILDING FOR RAYBESTOS

The Raybestos Division, Bridgeport, Conn., has recently completed an addition to its plant at Stratford, Conn.

*Interior and Exterior Views Of Raybestos Plant Addition.*

In line with the Raybestos policy of general expansion and modernization, the new building is of brick and steel and has 20,000 square feet of floor space. It is adjacent to the Company's other factory buildings.

This new building will be used for the manufacture of friction materials used by the automotive and aeronautical industries.

## B.L.M.A. ELECTS OFFICERS

At the annual meeting of the Brake Lining Manufacturers' Association, Inc., on September 24, the following officers were elected for the coming year:

President, R. B. Davis, of Raybestos Division of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.; First Vice President, T. L. Gatke, of Gatke Corp.; Second Vice President, P. B. Hoffman, of American Brakeblok Division, American Brake Shoe & Foundry Co.; Treasurer, J. S. Doyle, of Johns-Manville Corp.; Secretary and Assistant Treasurer, Pro Tem, H. G. Duschek.

The Executive Committee consists of the above mentioned officers *and* W. E. Harvey of Thermoid Co., G. M. Williams of Russell Manufacturing Co., M. M. Monroe of The Inland Manufacturing Division of General Motors Corporation; J. W. Crawford of the Firestone Tire & Rubber Co., and F. Marshall of Marshall-Eclipse Division of Bendix Aviation Corporation.

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**"PHOENIX" ASBESTOS SAFETY CLOTHING** describes and illustrates the "Phoenix" line of Asbestos Mitts and Safety Clothing made by the Federal Belting & Asbestos Co., Ltd., of Toronto, Canada. A 12 page pamphlet attractively printed in red and black.

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER MENTIONS ASBESTOS

On September 12th, President Roosevelt requested Federal Administrator Jesse Jones to advance $50,000,000 to Russia, thru the Amtorg Trading Corporation, official Russian trading agency, which will use the funds to purchase war materials in the United States.

The President's letter specifically mentioned asbestos. It read:

"The Russian Government needs dollar exchange with which to buy war supplies in the United States; we need many critical and strategic materials produced in Russia, some of which we normally import from that country.

"To assist the Russian Government in paying for war supplies which it wants to buy in the United States, and which it can get in limited quantities, and to expedite our own national defense program, I would like you to arrange through the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, or one of its subsidiaries, for the purchase from Amtorg Trading Corporation, a United States corporation owned by Russian interests, of manganese, chromite, asbestos, platinum and other articles and materials which we usually import from Russia, up to the value of $100,000,000, for delivery as rapidly as possible, with proper allowance for dislocation of transportation and of their productive facilities and that advances up to $50,000,000 be made against the purchase price of these critical and strategic materials, to be used by Russia in paying for purchases in this country."

—:—

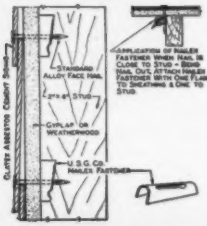
**KOHLER & CHASE,** 20 O'Farrell St., San Francisco, Calif., according to The Mining Journal, published at Phoenix, Ariz., is preparing its asbestos property near Monticello, Calif., for active operations. Machinery for crushing and drying has been ordered for installation at the mine and preliminary tests made in pilot mills are said to have shown an average of 20 per cent by weight. V. E. Parrish, Monticello, is supervisor of operations.

**ASBESTOS COVERING & TEXTILE CO.,** 292 Main St., Cambridge, Mass., in order to better describe its line of business, has changed its name, effective October 1st, to General Insulation Company, according to announcement of its President, Warren N. Bolster. There has been no change whatever in personnel, address or telephone number.

**UNION ASBESTOS & RUBBER COMPANY** of Cicero, Ill., has recently issued a very attractive and most informative folder on their Unibestos Pipe and Boiler Covering, designated as Form No. 48-965. Photographs and graphs illustrate the folder.

## SOMETHING NEW IN SIDING FASTENERS---

A new and improved fastener for applying asbestos siding over their Gypsum sheathing or Weatherwood Insulating Sheathing has been developed by the research laboratories of the U. S. Gypsum Company.




The fastener has been named the USG Nailex Fastener. It is applied after the siding has been nailed, being simply slipped over the tips of the siding nails which protrude thru the inner face of the sheathing, and then "pulled home" by forcing the wedge-shaped fastener in place with an ordinary pair of pliers.

It is claimed that the use of Nailex fasteners cuts the cost of wall construction; eliminates the need for furring strips, cuts nailing time and nailing costs about 50%; also that it materially reduces shingle breakage.

No special, expensive clipping tools are needed — there's no chance for application mistakes due to lack of equipment.

## NEW VICE PRESIDENTS FOR J-M

The election of John A. O'Brien and Leslie A. Baldwin to the position of vice presidents of Johns-Manville Sales Corporation was announced October 1st.

Mr. O'Brien will continue his duties as general sales manager of the power products and industrial department, a post he has held since 1938. Mr. Baldwin will manage company sales of industrial products to the chemical and paint industries, automobile manufacturers, and the non-ferrous metals industry.

Both men have been with the company in various positions for a number of years. Mr. O'Brien joined the organization in 1915, Mr. Baldwin began his association in 1920.

## FIBRE AND METAL PRODUCTS INC.

This is the new name of the company formerly known as Emsco Asbestos Company, Downey, Calif. A statement by Don W. Fether, President, says: "Stockholders and directors agreed that due to the manufacturing of diverse fibre and metal products, the continued use of the name Emsco Asbestos Co. was inappropriate and a more descriptive title should be adopted. The Corporate commission of the State of California has approved the change in the name to Fibre & Metal Products, Inc.

The change in corporate name in no way affects the corporate structure of the company. Stockholders, members of the board, officers, and personnel remain identical to those of Emsco Asbestos Company.

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**TRIPLEWEAR, INC.,** a new company with Irvin Levine as President and Samuel Pudlin as secretary and treasurer, has purchased the brake lining business, equipment, raw material, stocks, good will and trade names of the Triplewear Brake Linings Corporation, Paterson, N. J.

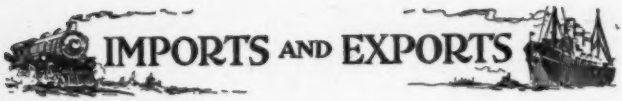
## PATENTS

**Pipe Covering Machine.** No. 2,253,848. Granted on August 26, 1941 to James D. Cummings, Houston, Texas, assignor to Johns-Manville Corporation. Application November 5, 1938. Serial No. 238,951.

A combination pipe coating and wrapping machine adapted for longitudinal movement relatively to a pipe or the like, said machine comprising a frame, traction wheels carried by said frame and arranged for driving engagement with a pipe, a motor on said frame and arranged to drive said traction wheels, means for applying a coating material in a uniform layer to said pipe, said means including a pump driven from said motor and independently of the drive of said traction wheels for returning coating drained from the pipe to a coating supply, means for applying wrapped material to said pipe over said coating layer and means operable from said motor for driving said wrapping means around said pipe in time relationship to the movement of said frame on said pipe.

**Clip Fastener for Corrugated Sheets.** No. 2,253,916. Granted on August 26, 1941 to Harlow T. Richardson, North Plainfield, N. J., assignor to The Ruberoid Co., New York. Application September 10, 1940. Serial No. 356,161.

A clip fastener for securing a corrugated asbestos cement sheet to a support, comprising two oppositely directed legs and a connecting portion all of substantial uniform non-planar cross section thruout, one of said legs being adapted to bear against the corrugated sheet and having outwardly diverging side portions disposed in planes substantially perpendicular to the oppositely inclined walls of the corrugations of the sheet.




**Imports into U. S. A.**

**(Figures published by U. S. Dept. of Commerce)**

*Unmanufactured Asbestos.*

| | June 1940 Tons (2240 lbs.) | June 1941 Tons (2240 lbs.) |
|---|---|---|
| Africa (Br. S.) | 831 | 338 |
| Australia | 1 | ..... |
| Canada | 12,452 | 31,910 |
| Cyprus | 1,350 | ..... |
| Italy | 1 | ..... |
| | 14,635 | 32,248 |
| *Value* | *$ 658,127* | *$1,378,405* |

*Tabulations by Grades:*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Crude—Crocidolite | | |
| Australia | 1 | ..... |
| Crude—Crocidolite or Amosite | | |
| Br. S. Africa | 389 | 253 |
| Crude—Chrysotile | | |
| Br. S. Africa | 442 | 85 |
| Crude—Canada | 146 | 386 |
| Crude—Crocidolite (Italy) | 1 | ..... |
| Milled Fibre (Canada) | 4,606 | 13,113 |
| Lower Grades (Canada) | 7,700 | 18,411 |
| Lower Grades (Cyprus) | 1,350 | ..... |
| | 14,635 | 32,248 |

When type of asbestos is not specified Chrysotile is understood.

*Manufactured Asbestos Goods:*

| | June 1940 Pounds | June 1941 Pounds |
|---|---|---|
| Canada (Pipe & Boiler Covg.) | 77 | ..... |
| France (Packing) | 200 | ..... |
| United Kingdom (Yarn) | 2,434 | 11,644 |
| United Kingdom (Packing) | 3,418 | 2,871 |
| United Kingdom (W. Fabrics) | 5,385 | ..... |
| | 11,514 | 14,515 |
| *Value* | *$7,101* | *$8,574* |

There were also imported during June 1941 asbestos manufactures from Canada (not classified as to kind) to the value of $14.00.

**Exports from U. S. A.**

**(Figures by U. S. Dept. of Commerce)**

*Exports of Unmanufactured Asbestos* for the month of June 1941 amounted to 86 tons, valued at $8,571; compared with 455 tons valued at $6,679 in June 1940.

*Exports of Manufactured Asbestos Goods:*

| | June 1940 | | June 1941 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Quantity | Value | Quantity | Value |
| Paper, Mlbd. & Rlbd. ... lbs. | 239,453 | $31,934 | 182,940 | $12,561 |
| Pipe Covg. & Cement .. lbs. | 213,882 | 14,067 | 149,486 | 7,256 |
| Textiles & Yarn ..... lbs. | 63,218 | 20,681 | 41,962 | 14,538 |
| Packing ..... lbs. | 160,086 | 76,667 | 138,535 | 55,562 |
| Brake Lining— | | | | |
| Molded & S-molded ..... ..... | | 69,595 | ..... | 73,164 |
| Not molded ..... lin. ft. | 77,926 | 14,834 | 62,052 | 9,170 |
| Clutch Facings— | | | | |
| Molded & S-molded units | 12,545 | 4,079 | 28,770 | 9,450 |
| Woven ..... units | 14,442 | 5,061 | 42,210 | 14,103 |
| Magnesia & Mfrs. of .... lbs. | 230,202 | 16,473 | 120,829 | 11,689 |
| Asbestos Roofing ..... sqs. | 5,342 | 23,589 | 5,346 | 16,914 |
| Other Manufactures .... lbs. | 774,525 | 54,579 | 423,491 | 75,229 |

**Exports from Bolivia.**

**(From Mineral Trade Notes. Sept. 20, 1941)**

During June 1941 Bolivia exported 21,315 Kilos of Asbestos (23½ short tons).

## PRODUCTION STATISTICS

**Africa (Union of South)**

**(Statistics by Dept. of Mines and Industries of U. of S. A.)**

| | April 1940 Tons (2000 lbs.) | April 1941 Tons (2000 lbs.) |
|---|---|---|
| *Transvaal* | | |
| Amosite ..... | 1,458 | 1,396 |
| Blue ..... | 364 | 37 |
| Chrysotile ..... | 20 | 127 |
| *Cape* | | |
| Blue ..... | 539 | 533 |
| | 2,381 | 2,093 |

# CURRENT RANGE OF PRICE

As of October 10, 1941

| Canadian | Per Ton (2000 lbs.) f.o.b. Mine (In U. S. Funds) | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Group No. 1 (Crude No. 1) | $700.00 | to | $750.00 |
| Group No. 2 (Crude No. 2; Crude Run-of-Mine and Sundry) | 150.00 | to | 350.00 |
| Group No. 3 (Spinning or Textile Fibre) | 110.00 | to | 200.00 |
| Group No. 4 (Shingle Fibre) | 57.00 | to | 85.50 |
| Group No. 5 (Paper Fibre) | 40.00 | to | 49.50 |
| Group No. 6 (Waste, Stucco or Plaster) | 30.00 | to | 32.00 |
| Group No. 7 (Refuse or Shorts) | 13.00 | to | 28.00 |

| Vermont— | Per Ton (2000 lbs.) f.o.b. Hyde Park, Vt. | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Shingle Fibres | $57.00 | to | $60.00 |
| Paper Stock Fibres | 40.00 | to | 48.00 |
| Waste | | | 30.00 |
| Shorts | 13.00 | to | 26.00 |
| Floats | | | 18.00 |

Note: Crude Run-of-Mine (Canadian) refers to a crude asbestos produced in certain mines where Crude Fibre is not graded into regular No. 1 and 2 Crude. Crude Sundry refers to certain odd lots of off grade material which do not conform to the regular standards of No. 1 Crude or No. 2 Crude.

# ASBESTOS STOCK QUOTATIONS

(These figures are compiled from the Commercial and Financial Chronicle. No guarantee made as to their correctness).

| | | September 1941 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Par | Low | High | Last |
| Armstrong Cork Co. (Com.) | np | 28⅛ | 29½ | 29 |
| Asbestos Corp. (Com.) | np | 18¾ | 19½ | 18⅞ |
| Celotex (Com.) | np | 8½ | 9¼ | 9 |
| Celotex (Pfd.) | 100 | 66¾ | 75 | 72¼ |
| Certainteed (Com.) | 1 | 3⅛ | 3¾ | 3⅜ |
| Certainteed (Pfd.) | 100 | 31⅛ | 35½ | 31⅞ |
| Flintkote (Com.) | np | 13¼ | 15¼ | 13⅜ |
| Johns-Manville (Com.) | np | 67¾ | 71⅞ | 69½ |
| Johns-Manville (Pfd.) | 100 | 122 | 127 | 126 |
| Raybestos-Manhattan (Com.) | np | 18 | 20⅛ | 18⅛ |
| Ruberoid (Com.) | np | 18 | 20½ | 19¼ |
| Thermoid (Com.) | 1 | 4⅛ | 5¼ | 4⅞ |
| Thermoid (Pfd.) | 10 | 35⅞ | 38⅞ | 36½ |
| U. S. Gypsum (Com.) | 20 | 56⅜ | 60½ | 58½ |
| U. S. Gypsum (Pfd.) | 100 | 172⅞ | 179 | 177½ |

# THIS and THAT

A new "Division of Materials" has been set up by the Office of Production Management (announcement made September 27th).

Under this Division has been established various branches. Asbestos comes under the Cork and Asbestos Branch, the chief of which is F. W. Gardner, while A. W. Byxbee, New York District Sales Manager for the Industrial Sales Division of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., is Mr. Gardner's assistant. Mr. Byxbee will concentrate chiefly on asbestos problems.

We notice also that Dr. E. R. Weidlein of Pittsburg, Pa., who is known to many of our readers, is chief of the Chemical Branch.

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A 10-foot black granite shaft was recently presented to the City of New York by the Westinghouse Electric & Mfg. Company, to mark the spot where the Time Capsule was buried 50 feet underground in 1939.

Readers will remember[1] that samples of asbestos cloth, asbestos cement shingles, asbestos cement pipe and a description of asbestos as a material were included in the contents of this Time Capsule, which is expected to be dug up 5000 years hence.

[1] See Page 2 Oct. 1938 "ASBESTOS" and Page 15 Sept. 1938 issue.

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A very complicated electrical calculating machine invented by Dr. Victor Paschkis of Columbia University was described in the August 11th issue of "Newsweek". The machine is said to be able to solve in a few minutes some of the problems of the steel industry which normally would consume hours and days of steel engineers' time.

The article in "Newsweek" goes on to state that the machine can also be used to solve highly technical problems

involving heating or cooling in such processes as the quick freezing of foods and *insulation of pipes.* It was first tested on a special pipe insulating job for the du Pont Company, and in a few minutes, obtained the same results that had taken engineers days to discover.

If any of our readers has further information concerning the machine and its testing of insulation please advise us.

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The Minerals Yearbook, 1941 edition reviewing 1940, published by the U. S. Bureau of Mines, is now available. It covers, Strategic & Critical Minerals, Government Defense Agencies, The International Situation, Technologic Developments, New Economic Trends, Data on 101 Minerals, Employment and Accidents, Substitute Uses in Industry, Review of Secondary Metals. It contains 1,459 pages; 72 chapters. Orders should be placed direct with the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. Price is $2.00 per copy.

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Our April, May, July and August issues contained a series of articles on the Asbestos Fields in South Africa; in this issue will be found a description of the Crocidolite deposits of Australia, and within the next month or so we expect to publish an article on Rhodesia's Asbestos Industry.

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